

## REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for review of the present application. Applicant also notes a change of attorneys representing Applicant in this case and a corresponding change of attorney docket number as noted on the first page of this response.

The Office Action of March 15, 2006, rejects Claims 1-40 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,932,863 to Rathus et al. in view of U.S. Patent 6,909,705 to Matsuo et al.

Applicant submits herewith a Request for Continued Examination for consideration of this Preliminary Amendment.

Applicant has amended independent Claims 1, 8, 15, 25, and 32 and dependent Claims 2-7 and 26-31 and has added Claims 41-54 to more clearly, definitively, and fully claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

Applicant presents the following remarks in response to the rejection of the Office Action.

### REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Office Action rejects Claims 1-40 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over RATHUS in view of MATSUO, and cites to an electronic paper 101 of a flexible display medium (col. 3, ll. 28-31) of MATSUO as disclosing a flexible display medium. Applicant, however, submits that MATSUO does not teach or suggest an electronic display device adapted to flexibly deform as claimed. Applicant notes the similarity in appearance of terms, but asserts that an electronic paper of MATSUO is a bound notebook of rigid electronic displays and, as such, creates a display medium which is capable of (flexibly) displaying a variety of and varying quantity of information. This display medium is "flexible" only in the sense of being capable of displaying a variety of and varying quantity of information, *i.e.*, flexible in function, but not flexible in a physical form as recited in the pending claims to be able to "flexibly deform."

Nothing in MATSUO discloses or suggests that an electronic paper 101 could flexibly deform. Rather, MATSUO teaches away from an electronic display device able to flexibly deform in the manner claimed for this invention. Specifically, MATSUO teaches binding one or more flat electronic papers 101 to a backbone 103 with a movable axis part 50 which permits rotation of the rigid electronic papers 101. This movable axis part would not be necessary if, in fact, electronic papers 101 were flexibly deformable. Indeed, every figure in MATSUO illustrates the electronic papers 101 as a flat planar panel; none illustrate it as flexed or bent physically. Still further, Figure 29 shows that the cover of a body 102 may bend, but that the

associated electronic papers 101 are fixed, rigid structures. Nothing in MATSUO discloses or suggests any deformability or similar change in physical structure of the flat electronic papers 101. Applicant expressly requests the Examiner to provide specific evidence of flexible deformability of electronic papers in MATSUO and/or physical deformability of the electronic display medium in MATSUO if not in agreement with Applicant's interpretation of the disclosure of MATSUO. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claims 1-54 are patentable over the prior art and the above remarks traverse the rejection of the Office Action of March 15, 2006.

#### Conclusion

In view of the foregoing comments, Applicant submits that all of the pending claims of the present application, as amended, are in condition for allowance. It is therefore respectfully requested that a Notice of Allowance be issued. The Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney to resolve any remaining issues in order to expedite examination of the present invention.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,



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